ESTABLISHED 1877-NEW SERIES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1898.

VOL. XVIII-NO. 1-WHOLE NO. 896.

"THE AMERICAN CONFLICT."

Leading Incidents and Episodes of the War of the Rebellion.

By HORACE GREELEY.

THE STONE RIVER BATTLE.

Rosecrans Takes Buell's Army-Fighting the Way to Stone River-Terrific Combat Won by Rosecrans. Bragg Withdraws.

Gen. Rosecrans, on assuming command of Buell's Army of the Ohio, Oct. 30, 1862, found it seriously depleted and demoralized by the exhaustive marches and indecisive conflicts of the last six months. With a strength fully adequate to the rout and destruction of all the forces led into Kentucky by Bragg and Kirby Smith, it had seen that State ravaged throughout by that locust horde, which had in due time recrossed the Cumberland Mountains unassailed, returning to East Tennessee as if in triumph.

Of the 100,000 men formerly borne on its muster-rolls, he found, on examination, no less than 26,482 "absent by authority"most, but not nearly all of them, doubtless in hospitals, sick or wounded; while 6,484 more were "absent without authority"-in other words, had deserted.

His effective force was thus reduced to about 65,000 men; while his cavalry was so troopers of Forrest and John Morgan rode around us at will, striking at posts and supply trains, and compelling enormous, and constantly increasing, exhausting details to keep open our communications and preserve our army from starvation.

THREE GRAND DIVISIONS.

The railroad from Louisville to Nashville had been reopened to and across Green River: so that, though there was no considerable force of the enemy in its front-Bragg's army being still on its tedious, toilsome, circuitous retreat through East Tennessee-our army was clustered around Bowling Green, whence it could advance only so fast as the repair of

its sole line of supply should be perfected.

Its designation had been changed to Fourteenth Corps; the Department having been curtailed, and rechristened that of the Cumberland. It was now organized into three grand divisions: the right, under Maj.-Gen. McCook, with Brig.-Gens. J. W. Sill, Phil. H. Sheridan, and Col. W. E. Woodruff at the head of its subordinate divisions respectively; the center, under Maj.-Gen. Geo. H. Thomas, with its subordinate divisions led by Maj.-Gen. L. H. Rousseau, Brig.-Gens. Negley, Palmer, Dumont, and Fry; whereof Dumont and Fry were soon relieved, and Palmer transferred to the left wing, of which Maj.-Gen. T. L. Crittenden had command, and which consisted of the sub-divisions of Brig.-Gens. T. J. Wood, H. P. Van Cleve,

and W. S. Smith. Rosecrans assigned the chief command of his dilapidated cavalry to Maj.-Gen. D. S. Stanley; while Lieut.-Col. Julius P. Garesche-an officer of rare capacity and merit-was placed

Wm. Truesdail as Chief of Army Police.

front of the city, covering the roads leading chiefs of the belligerents. Nashville, enabling him to go to the front, were killed or wounded. Revnold's assigned to its command.

and reappear in our front at Murfreesboro thanked by Rosecrans.

least 150 men; Lieut. Beals and 20 men of returning to his camp in triumph. the 4th Mich. Cav. had been picked up Nov. 26 near Stone River; but Gen. Stanley, reporting for duty about this time, soon drove

squad of Morgan's men, bringing in their bering 1,700. arms and horses.

A rebel force having about this time dashed across the Cumberland near Hartsville, capturing a forage train and its escort, Maj. Hill, 2d Ind., chased the captors 18 miles, recovering all we had lost, and killing some 18 or 20 rebels, for which he was publicly complimented by Rosecrans; who, finding that some of his soldiers were base enough to surrender wantonly to the enemy, in order to be paroled and sent home, had 50 of the caitiffs forwarded to the parole camp in Indiana. dense as to bring him to a halt. The lesson did not require repetition.

SURPRISED BY MORGAN. most disgracefully captured, though the resimovement slow and by no means bloodless. four brigades charging vehemently its ex- the rebels' progress finally arrested; their Almost any General but Rosecrans would

trench himself; his videts were surprised and day to Lavergne, and the next to Stewart's and crambling these into a fleeing mob withpicked up; Morgan advanced on him at 7 a. creek, where Rosecrans seems to have ex- in a few minutes.



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CAPT. E. P. HOWELL, EX-GOV. U. A. WOODBURY. GEN. J. A. SEXTON. GEN. J. M. WILSON. Ex-Gov. JAMES .. BE VER

HON. CHARLES DENBY. SEN. OSEPH WHEELER.

GEN. GRENVILLE M. DODGE.

THE WAR INVESTIGATING COMMISSION.

Above is reproduced a photograph of the members of the Commission to Investigate the Conduct of the table, immediately back of ex-Gov. James A. Beaver, one of Pennsylvania's best soldiers, Spanish War, which is now holding daily sessions in Washington, and has already examined several important Governors, and Judge. To Gen. Wilson's right sits the Commander-in-Chief of the G.A.R., Col. James A. Sexton, an especially valuable m mber of the Commission. Almost in front of him is ex-Gov. Urban A. Wood-To the right of the picture is Maj.-Gen. Grenville M. Dodge, President of the Commission, well known to bury, of Vermont, of whom Green Mountain soldiers were always proud.

the veterans of the civil war. In the immediate foreground is Maj.-Gen. A. MeD. McCook, of distinguished Dr. S. P. Conner, of Cincinnati, prominent in medical circles, and a veteran of the civil war, is at the far military record, now on the retired list of the Army. Directly back of him is Col. Charles Denby, whose left in the background just beyond him is Capt. Evan P. Howell, late of the 1st Ga., C. S. record as Lieutenant-Colonel of the 42d Ind. and Colonel of the 80th Ind., and his services as Minister to A., and of of Atl uta's most prominent citizens. Maj.-Gen. Joseph Wheeler, who was giving his testimony elore the Commission at the time the photograph was taken, is shown in the background at the right of

Brig.-Gen. J. M. Wilson, now Chief of Engineers of the Army, and of excellent military record, sits on Gen. Dodge.

brigade of our infantry, under Col. Stanley serious loss. army had time to conclude its long march bringing in his train, and was publicly ing irregularly from north to south, a dis- J. W. Sill was killed early in the day, while

Meantime Morgan had been exhibiting his, revolving rifles, resolved to test their effici- three met, by invitation, at Rosecrans's ing or being charged. Several daring dashes on our supply-trains to Franklin he rode into that town, driving the morrow. capture of a number of our wagons and at prisoners, gaining important intelligence, and liberately chosen this as his ground whereon taking's and a section of Bush's battery.

ROSECRANS'S ADVANCE. At length-two months' provisions having

the enemy back to Nolensville without loss bered 15,933; the center, under Thomas, 13,bered 15,933; the center, under Thomas, 13,after daylight; Wood's being ready to supCorps, with intent to surround and capture it. sides Morton's Brigade of Engineers, num-

This army was essentially weakened by its teries, or 150 guns.

1.500 cavalry and mounted infantry, and and dense thickets of cedar, rendering the McCook's front and on his right; Cleburne's held; our batteries here concentrated, and plies.

at Nolensville, and the next at Triune. ions striking it more directly in front, hurlm., in broad daylight, having previously pected that the rebels might give him battle. Of the two brigade commanders in John-

Green by special train for Mitchellsville, Moore's men were first hurried to Murfrees- were retreating, and Crittenden was there- back toward our center. A large part of this other regiments. where he took horse and proceeded to Nash- boro, stripped by the way of their blankets upon ordered to push across a division and (Johnson's) Existing and again was his position assailed; Ammunition being rather scanty, and fresh pany, and immediately sent one of the Michiville, whose garrison, commanded by Gen. and overcoats, and thence marched directly occupy Murfreesboro. Harker's Brigade oners by the rest was of but each attack was repulsed; and the fight supplies expected, he proposed to keep the gan regiments back at a smart gait to bring Negley, he reviewed the next day. His di- up to our lines to be there exchanged -con- was accordingly sent across-the stream little account during the remainder of the closed on this part of the field with our holiday in quiet, unless Bragg should decide in Capt. Eyler's company. visions, as they arrived, were thrown out in trary to the cartel agreed on by the military being almost everywhere fordable-and fight. southward, the command of the right here Gen. Rosecrans exchanged them, but gave body in some confusion; but prisoners thus C. Davis and Sheridan, had repulsed several devolving on Gen. Jeff C. Davis; Gen. R. B. notice that he would do so no more. In the captured reporting that Breckinridge's entire resolute attacks on their front, when the Mitchell relieved Negley as commandant at Hartsville disgrace some 150 on either side corps was there present, Crittenden wisely disappearance of Johnson's Division enabled took the responsibility of disobeying Rose- the rebels to come in on their flank, compelwhile Dumont's Division was merged: a Two days later Wheeler, with a large force crans's order, and, favored by nightfall, ling them also to give ground; and, though too received an order to advance and attack. new one being created, and Brig.-Gen. J. J. of mounted infantry and cavalry, attacked a withdrew Harker across the river without repeated efforts were made by Davis and his

to stand and fight, and that he had con- By 11 a m the day was apparently lost

division—or rather dispersion—into no less fight his own battle and not Rosecrans's. To Gen. Rousseau, pushing up his reserve than 110 infantry and 10 cavalry regiments, this end he had concentrated heavily on his division to the front, sent Maj. Ring's its artillerymen serving no less than 24 bat- left, where Hardee was in command, with battalion of Regulars to Negley's assistance. Our army, now well concentrated in front 31. Bishop Pope, in his center, strengthened effective charge, losing heavily, but renderof Nashville, commenced its advance at day- by McCown's Division, was directed to second ing admirable service. light Dec. 26, Rosecrans and staff riding out and support Hardee's attack; the two corps of Nashville to join it several hours after-ward. The three grand divisions covered all crushing back our routed right upon our ing our center; Sheridan, entirely out of time lost two of its guns, but they were subthe roads leading south and southwest from center, seizing first the Wilkinson and then ammunition, falling still farther to the rear, dressed up in ridiculous nightcaps, Nov. 28, and thus paraded before their jeering comthat city. Of course, it rained heavily, as our army and its supply trains, whenever they had reached a position which gave them

According to Rosecrans's plan, McCook,

gained his rear without exciting any alarm. The third day, being Sunday, our troops son's Division, holding our extreme right, left; but had not proceeded far when Palmer now well posted, and had the range of the

Moore, who had hastily taken post on a hill, mainly rested. Next morning, McCook Gen. Kirk was severely wounded at the first found his safety compromised by a rebel ad- ground in their front; and it had been fairly to him that they would stay longer than and who soon contrived to evince every pressed on to Wilkinson's Crossroads, six fire; while Gen. Willich had his horse killed vance on his rear. Halting Cruft's Brigade, proved that the enemy could not take them, Casabianca had stayed on the burning deck. species of incapacity, save perhaps cowardice, miles from Murfreesboro; while Crittendes, and was himself captured. So sudden and land ordering Col. Grose to face to the rear, even with the help of the 28 we had lost. at the head of his staff, with Capt. J. St.

Clair Morton as Chief Engineer, and Col.

So, giving orders for the issue of all the pulsed them; while Col. Hazen, falling back

So, giving orders for the issue of all the pulsed them; while Col. Hazen, falling back

The head of his staff, with Capt. J. St.

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The h

drove a rebel regiment back upon their main | McCook's remaining divisions, under Jeff subordinates to bring their men again up to but he had only moved half a mile when a nobly—Thomas, Sheridan, Wood, Rousseau, Ohio Cav., and being informed that we were

ther advance impossible, so that Bragg's to our 40. Matthews returned in triumph, was nearly all imposition along a line stretch- better; but of his brigade commanders, Gen. tance of some three or four miles: Critten- leading a successful charge, and Cels. Roberts but Hanson's Brigade. before Rosecrans was prepared to assume the Gen. Stanley having received and dis-den on the left, Thomas in the center, and and Shaeffer at later periods—each falling tributed among his best horsemen some 2,000 McCook on the right; and, at 9 p. m., the dead at the head of his brigade, while charg-

andacity and vigor as a leader of cavalry, ency. Pushing down the turnpike leading Headquarters, and received their orders for This division tought well throughout; but was pushed back nearly or quite to the below Mitchellsville had resulted in the the rebel videts before him, taking a few It being now certain that Bragg had de- Nashville turnpike, with the loss of Hough-

centrated here his forces, while his cavalry so McCook's Corps-a full third of our armystubbornly contested and impeded our ad- was practically demolished, and the rebel did so, gaining some ground, but losing conthe rebel raiders from our rear; and, in several partisan affairs occurring directly afterward, the advantage was with us—a Texas regiment being chased Nov. 27 by Col. John ment being chased Nov. 28 been accumulated at Nashville, and a good part of the rebel cavalry in our rear working its wince, Rosecrans proposed at daylight to proposed the Nashville, and a good part of the rebel cavalry in our rear working its wince, Rosecrans worked with throw forward his left and center, crushing part of the rebel cavalry in our rear working its wince, Rosecrans worked with throw forward his left and center, crushing part of the rebel cavalry in our rear working its wince, Rosecrans worked with throw forward his left and center, crushing part of the rebel cavalry in our rear working its wince, Rosecrans worked with throw forward his left and center, crushing part of the rebel cavalry in our rear working its wince, Rosecrans worked with throw forward hi Kennett some 15 miles down the Franklin turnpike, while Brig.-Gen. E. N. Kirk that day drove Wheeler of Lavergne, Wheeler himself being wounded.

His disposable force had been reduced by details and by casualties to 46,910 men, of pushing them off their natural line of retreat, and 3,266 cavalry—much of the cavalry very Phil Sheridan, on another road, pressed Phil Sheridan, pressed Phil She raw. The right wing, under McCook, num-Division, on our extreme left, advanced soon tween it and what was left of McCook's

GALLANT REGULARS.

Bragg, however, had already decided to This compelled Negley to recoil; when orders to attack McCook at daylight Dec. The Regulars made a most gallant and

The weight of the rebel attack had by rades through Nashville to the music of the portant movement in Winter; and McCook, they should have flanked our right and gained on our right, was soon enveloped in a fog so our rear.

due of Gen. Dumont's Division was at Cas- McCook, with our right, rested that night treme right, Cheatham's and McCown's Divis- repeated attempts to advance out of the have supposed that there was but one point Moore had neglected to fortify or even in
Crittenden, with our left, advanced the first left and striking it more directly in front, hurl
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Crittenden, with our left and striking it more directly in front being left and striking it more directly in front being left and striking it more directly in front being left and striking i

troops entirely successful. BRECKINRIDGE'S MOVEMENTS.

Bragg had brought all his army across the creek to overwhelm our right and center, and doubtful carnage, there cannot be a turned to my regiment. The next morning, save that Breckinridge, with his division, re- doubt that the battle was saved after it had while we were on the march, Gen. Sturgis too, received an order to advance and attack. William S. Rosecrans. Thousands had done Standing on the roadside he asked for the 7th Until the railroad was fully reopened, Unit the railroad was fully reopened, Unit the railroad was fully reopened, Unit the railroad was fully reopened, I be work, their fighting did not amount to to the support of Polk in the center and he Nov. 13, hence to Louisville, our men only lived from hand to mouth, rendering a far- lived a still further order to advance and at lived and the lived at li to the support of Polk, in the center, and he so-but the day might have been saved with- rode up he came toward me, and in handceived a still further order to advance and at- it must have been lost. It was he who, when "Good morning, Adjutant. I hope you

Moving his remaining brigades, under Preston and Palmer, by the left flank he crossed the creek and reported to Polk and Bragg just in season to see the brigades of Jackson and Adams, which he had previously Adams being among the wounded.

Breckinridge was now ordered to charge

division thus assailed, was wounded in the Staff, Garesche, was blown to pieces by a ion of a 16-year-old girl than of a cavalry foot at 10 a. m., but remained in the saddle shell while riding by the General's side, and soldier. His uniform was spotless, and fitted been obliged early in the fight to spare Has-call's and Harker's Brigades to the relief of he was deeply attached—they two being wounded—one of them mortally and the uniform it would have been a misfit. We were told that he was from the Po

Before night, Estep's battery, which, with time lost two of its guns, but they were subsequently recaptured by the 13th Mich.

WITHSTANDING REBEL ASSAULT. Night fell on our army successful against

every attempt which had for some hours been This compelled Thomas to withdraw them | made to drive it, but with little reason for Within two miles after passing our picket- however strongly assailed, was to hold his from the cedar woods to more open and exultation. It had lost since daylight, inline our advance was resisted by heavy bodies position for three hours, receding—if attacked favorable ground; his artillery holding a cluding stragglers, at least one-fourth of its Gen. Thomas having thrown forward on our left a brigade—nearly 2,000 strong—to left, who skirmished sharply and constantly, fighting desperately; which he had under-Hartsville, its command fell to Col. A. B. taking advantage of the continually increas-Moore, 104th Ill., who allowed himself to be ing roughness of the country, which is in take in the calculation. Before 7 a. m. under a murderous fire, by which they lost rebel cavalry were on its line of communica-Moore, 104th Ill., who allowed himself to be ing roughness of the country, which is in take in the calculation. Below in surprised, Dec. 7, by Morgan, at the head of good part heavily wooded with forests of oak Hardee's Corps burst from the thickets in official report:

> Nashville with the least additional loss. But Palmer's Division, holding the right of Rosecrans took stock of his ammunition, and our left wing, had advanced, at 8 a. m., to found that there was enough left for another support Negley's movement, covering his battle, so he resolved to stay. His guns were

Clair Morton as Chief Engineer, and Col.

Wm. Truesdail as Chief of Army Police.

BRAGG AT MURFREESBORO.

Bradg AT MURFREESBORO.

The railroad having been rendered service
The railroad having been rendered service
Ble, Rosecrans left, Nov. 10, Bowling

The railroad having been rendered service
Ble, Rosecrans left, Nov. 10, Bowling

The railroad having been rendered service
The railroad having been rendered service
The railroad having been rendered service
Ble, Rosecrans left, Nov. 10, Bowling

The railroad having been rendered service
The division right here and will send back a not railroad, and held it firmly until Grose, occupied the crest of a low, few rods, so that it might rest advantageous
The railroad having been rendered service
The division right here and will send back a not railroad, and held it firmly until Grose, occupied the crest of a low, few rods, so that it might rest advantageous
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The division right here and wil

HOW ROSECRANS SAVED THE DAY.

apprised too late of the sudden and utter are well." demolition of his right wing, instantly pushed | That was all; and that was enough. I up Rousseau from his center to its relief and always had a liking for Gen. Sturgis from hurried across Van Cleve's and other divis- this our first meeting, described above, till ions from the left to stay the tide of rebel the day he left us. success. It was he who-Van Cleve having just fallen-led the charge by a part of his sent, recoil from an assault on our lines, division, which finally arrested the rebels and repelled their advance on our right, Rousseau for a time commanded our division. At that with Preston's and Palmer's Brigades, and desperately the enemy in his front, and hurlforthwith emulating his example, charging ing them back into the cedars with fearful

Rosecrans was there, directing, encouraging, had a fresh Irish complexion like the pink Gen. Wood, who was in command of our steadying; though the head of his Chief of side of a ripe peach—more like the complex-

"Garesche is dead," "I am very sorry, and as he passed us side remarks were made, such as, "I wonder if his mother cuts his Cox's, had been splendidly served through- it." Soon word came (erroneously), "Mcout, had lost so heavily that a detail of in- Cook is killed." "We cannot help it," was fantry was required to aid in working its the General's calm reply; "this battle must to drink from their canteen.

And it was won. Before sunset, the rebels had tried him on every side, and been beaten back-with fearful carnage, indeed, but no greater on our side than on theirs-their advantage being confined to our loss of guns cessful efforts had been made, but the enemy and prisoners in the morning, consequent on McCook's sudden, overwhelming disaster. In the fighting since 11 o'clock, the carnage had been greater on the side of the rebels; drive the enemy from the position referred to. and they had lost confidence, if not ground. At 9 a. m., they had supposed our army in he had permission from Gen. Stoneman to their hands; at sunset, Bragg had enough to ask for the command of the force that was to do to save his own. Says Rosecrans, in his

"The day closed, leaving us master advantageously posted, with open ground in front, swept at all points by our artillery. We had lost heavily in killed and wounded, and a considerable number in stragglers and

(Continued on seventh page.)

MET IN THE FIELD

Personal Recollections of Some Union Officers.

A Stormy Interview with Gen. Sturgis. How Miles Keogh Evidenced His Pluck-With Kautz at Rocky. Hill-Sanders and His Kid Gloves Dashing Gen. Wilson.

BY THEODORE F. ALLEN, CAPTAIN, 7TH OHIO CAV.; BREVET COLONEL, U. S. VOLS., CIN-CINNATI, O.

Thinking the reminiscences of a volunteer regarding some of the army officers he met during the war may be of interest, I have set down such as I consider most interesting and characteristic.

I will first recall Gen. S. D. Sturgis, who for a time commanded our eavalry division in East Tennessee. We had been holding the line of the French Broad River, with our cavalry pickets guarding the fords, with Longstreet's command on the opposite side of the river. For reasons not known to me Gen. Sturgis withdrew his forces from this line, and at daylight one day the entire division of cavalry fell back slewly. At that time I was Adjutant of the 7th Obio Cav. Three companies of my regiment had been on picket-duty at the fords of the river. Two of these companies were duly relieved by Gen. Sturgis, and reported back promptly to the regiment. The third company did not report. After the division had fallen back some three or four miles I was much disturbed regarding the safety of this picket company-F of my regiment, Capt. Eyler and Lieut. Dryden. In a hot-headed way I remarked that Gen. Sturgis was sacrificing

his pickets in the movement then in progress. Without my knowledge this remark was carried to Gen. Sturgis, or at all events reached him in some way. Soon after a message was received from Division Headquarters, directing the Adjutant of the 7th Ohio Cav. to report in person immediately to Gen. Sturgis. I galloped over to the road Gen. Sturgis was marching on, and soon found him sitting on a fence waiting for me. I rode up to him, saluted, and informed him that I was the Adjutant of the 7th Ohio Cav ... under orders to report to him.

He immediately exploded in language that was plain, asking (with a blue and sulphrous vocabulary of adjectives) what meant by circulating the report that he was sacrificing his pickets in the movement then

At that time I stood in awe of so great a person as the Division Commander, and for a few seconds was short of breath to make reply. But I had a tolerably good vocabu-lary of "cuss-words" of my own, and as soon as I could get my breath I began letting them out, and told the General in his own language that the explanation of my remark could be found in the fact that one entire company of my regiment under Capt. Eyler and Lieut. Dryden was standing picket at Jones's Mill, on the French Broad River,

now some five miles to our rear, and know-

The entire division was halted, and in due time the regiment came back, bringing the company with them. Gen. Sturgis said On a calm review of this day's desperate nothing further to me at that time, and I re-

CAPT. MILES KEOGH. This young Irishman came to us as an Aid-

time we considered ourselves veterans, having served two years, and were a good deal disloss on both sides, but with prisoners taken we did not like the style of Capt. Miles

till evening, when he turned over his command to Gen. M. S. Hascall. Though he had wounded—one of them mortally—and as had been any more of the man or any less of the center and right, he held his ground Roman Catholics, as were none other of his body-guard. We were not caring much in nobly through the day, his batteries replying military family—but he was too intent on his those days for the Pope or his body-guard, forcibly to those with which the enemy an- work to seem to heed the fall of his beloved and, at all events, we did not care much for noyed us from the hights south of the river, and his infantry repelling every charge made to him:

work to seem to need the lant of his octoved and, at all events, we did not like to him:

> patronizes?" etc., and nobody permitted him One day not long after Keogh joined us we got into an argument with the enemy's cavalry, and found particular difficulty in driving them from a wooded knoll which commanded our position. Two or three unsuccontinued to hold the position. Soon Capt. Keogh came galloping to our front with an order from Gen. Stoneman directing us to

hair?" "What laundry do you think he

carry out this order. A battalion of four companies (nearly 300 the original ground on our left, and our fine of companies he started at a brisk trot, and men) was placed at his disposal. In column getting under fire, raised himself in his stir-

rups, and, with cap in band, turned to the battalion, cried out: "Hip, hip, hurrah, boys; here we go!" Breaking into a gallop, the battalion, with Keogh well in the lead, charged on the